



Customer No. 27123

Docket No. 1232-4682

2165  
JPW

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): YOKOI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2165

Serial No.: 09/781,749

Examiner: Diane D. MIZRAHI

Filed: February 12, 2001

Confirmation No. 8899

For: INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM  
FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT SUPPLIERS

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8(a))**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pp.);
2. Form PTO-1449A (1 p.)
3. copies of eight (8) references cited therein;
4. Return receipt postcard

along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

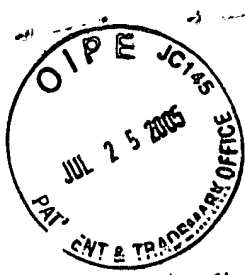
Dated: July 21, 2005

By:

*Pamela Stone*

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For: INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION  
ABOUT SUPPLIERS

SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449A, a copy of which is enclosed, are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☒ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:

DE 196 23 285

2. ☐ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. ☐ Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☐ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4) before the mailing date of a first office action after the filing of an RCE under §1.114.
5. ☒ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- ☐ Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. \_\_\_\_\_. A  
DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
- b. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.
8. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with:
- a. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3) or §1.313(c)(1), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h);
- b. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(c)(2) or §1.313(c)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) or a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the

attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h).

c. ☐ The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.

9. ☒ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. ☒ This document is accompanied by ☒ a Search Report ☐ Communication which was cited in a corresponding ☐ PCT or ☒ Foreign counterpart application

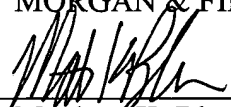
11. ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed in payment of the fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) and 1.17(p).

☐ Charge the fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) and 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. \_\_\_\_\_. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4682. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: July 21, 2005

By:   
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<b>FORM PTO-1449A</b> <b>SUPPLEMENTAL</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>		Attorney Docket: 1232-4682		Serial No.: 09/781,749		
		Applicant: YOKOI et al.		Filing Date: February 12, 2001		
				Group Art Unit: 2165		
<b>U.S. PATENT / PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initial		Patent/Publication Number	Publication/Issue Date	Name	Filing Date	
	1.	5,361,199	11/1/1994	Shoquist et al.		
	2.	5,638,280	6/10/1997	Nishimura et al.		
	3.	5,852,810	12/22/1998	Sotiroff et al.		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Publication Date	Country	Copy Filed	Translation
	4.	WO97/17663	5/15/1997	PCT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	5.	196 23 285	12/18/1997	Germany (w/ Abstract)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	6.	WO99/06934	2/11/1999	PCT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	7.	WO99/09499	2/25/1999	PCT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initial		Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
	8.	European Search Report for EP 01 30 1259, dated June 20, 2005				

Examiner	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.	